

REMARKS

This Amendment is submitted in response to the Decision of the Board of Appeals and Patent Interferences of the United States Patent and Trademark Office.

In the Decision the Examiner's rejection of claims 5-11 and 14 was affirmed, while the Examiner's rejection of claim 12 was reversed.

With the present Amendment applicant has cancelled all claims currently on file, and submitted a new claim 15.

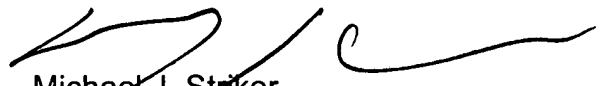
Claim 15 combines the features of original claims 9 and 12, since claim 12 was indicated as allowable by the Board of Appeals and Patent Interferences it is believed that claim 15 should be allowed.

Reconsideration and allowance of the present application is most respectfully requested.

Should the Examiner require or consider it advisable that the specification, claims and/or drawings be further amended or corrected in

formal respects in order to place this case in condition for final allowance, then it is respectfully requested that such amendments or corrections be carried out by Examiner's Amendment, and the case be passed to issue. Alternatively, should the Examiner feel that a personal discussion might be helpful in advancing this case to allowance, he is invited to telephone the undersigned (at 631-549-4700).

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Michael J. Striker', with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Michael J. Striker
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